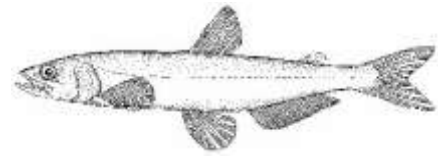

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director



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Ketchikan Area Office
2030 Sea Level Drive #205
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Date: February 21, 2018
Time: 12:15 p.m.

2018 SOUTHEAST ALASKA EULACHON SMELT FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ketchikan. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following closures for eulachon smelt (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) for the 2018 season. These closures will be in effect beginning 12:01 a.m., Saturday, February 24, 2018:

District 1: will be closed to commercial, personal use, and subsistence eulachon smelt fishing in all waters. This includes all Revillagigedo Island and mainland drainages.

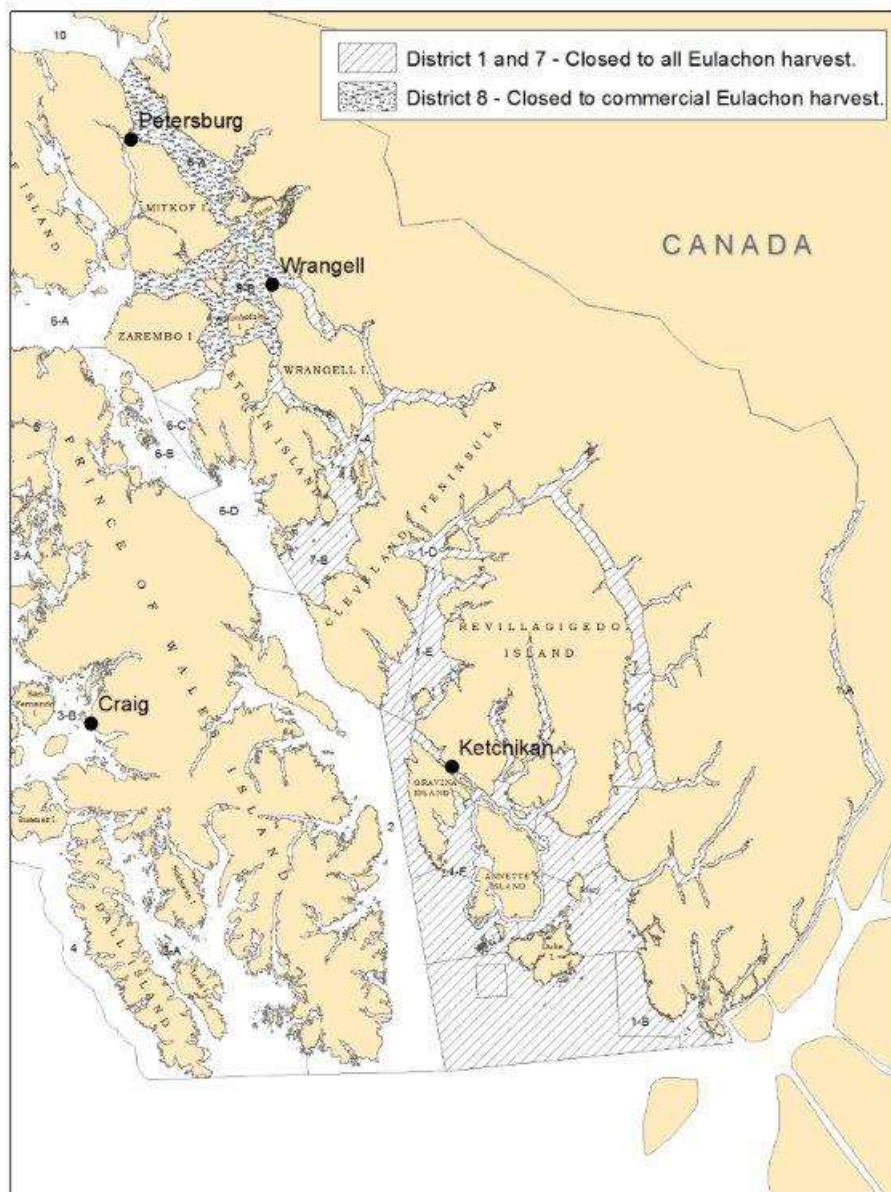
District 7: will be closed to commercial, personal use, and subsistence eulachon smelt fishing in all waters.

District 8: will be closed to commercial eulachon fishing. Subsistence and personal use fishing for eulachon smelt will remain open.

Eulachon smelt spawning runs in the southern portions of Southeast Alaska have had large fluctuations in recent years and continue to show poor returns to many areas with traditional runs of eulachon smelt.

Stock status information for each of the above areas is limited and a conservative approach is necessary for sustaining the health of these stocks.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1H0118.



News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
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AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220